



KANSAS NOW

PO Box 860
Wichita, KS 67201-1860

T 620 245 4904

coordinator@ksnow.org

www.ksnow.org

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Governor Mark Parkinson
Kansas State Capitol, Suite 212-S
300 SW 10th Ave
Topeka, KS 66612-1590

Dear Governor Parkinson,

I am writing you today to ask your support toward the completion an unfinished task. This task is of significant importance to the women of Kansas and the women of the United States. That task is to bring Amelia Earhart to the United States Capitol. This is of worthy attention, as currently there are only 9 women among the 100 statues in our National Statuary Hall representing the 50 states and Kansas has already made a commitment to make Amelia the 10th.

SCR 1617 was passed and signed into law by Governor Bill Graves in 1999. This resolution sought to replace the current statues representing Kansas at the US Capitol. The statues representing Kansas at that time were George W Glick and Senator John James Ingalls. The resolution was a commitment by the state to replace those statues with the statues of President Dwight D.Eisenhower and Amelia Earhart.

Due to the passage of the resolution and successful fundraising by the Eisenhower Foundation, President Eisenhower now represents all Kansans in the National Statuary Hall. However, Amelia has not yet found her way to Washington DC. SCR 1617 left fundraising efforts for Amelia up to the City of Atchison and the Atchison Chamber of Commerce. However, it does go on to state that if these local entities cannot achieve the task of generating the income, that the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing would "ultimately" be charged with the task.

I have sent correspondence to the Kansas Department of Commerce and await a response regarding any plans they may have toward moving Amelia, as per the resolution. I do need help from you, specifically, as an agreement between the state and the Architect of the US Capitol was never signed. I have attached a copy of the suggested documentation and ask that you sign off on this next important step toward achieving greater equality for women thorough visibility and representation at our US Capitol.

For Equality,

Kari Ann Rinker
State Coordinator for Kansas NOW